# FORT PIERCE NEWS

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\$1.00 A YEAR

## LADY PINEAPPLE FARMER

Tells What Can be Done by a Woman in Florida.

St. George Rathborne of Elizabeth, N. J., a News subscriber who is interested in the East Coast, sends us the following which appeared in the New York Sur, March 1, 1908. Some of our growers will not agree with her on

Three thousand dollars a year is the has cleared on her pineapple farm in the south of Flarida for the past five years. The farm comprises only four acres, and less than three is planted in

A pineapples. "Ten years ago I was teaching school in New Hampshire when the physician on told me that the one chance for prolonging my life lay in going south, below the frost line and living out of doors," Miss Macy told the reporter when describing her success as a pineapple farmer. "I had been teaching fifteen years and had saved \$1,000.

"After the first shock was over I Fourade up my mind to fight for my alf ealth just as I had had to fight for my forthducation and as the family of a New University and farmer have to fight for everything they get. I packed my few add clothes and set out for Miami, Fla., be--cause it seemed a bit nearer home than

F Mexico. "The second day after my arrival I Tar begun to look around to see what sort - of outdoor work I could find that would more than a few days each season. pay me enough to live on. I soon

done by negroes. looked upon as queer. As I had deter- the plants after the fruit is gathered. rised to make my home among these shat would be hard to do st I be from by doing queer things.

full od she explained to me that if I want- perhaps I had better explain, full d to work out of doors she would ad-Il forise me to rent a garden. Then I could call in as much hired help as I with them or not, just as I saw fic. She said that many southern ladies and gentlemen worked their own land and nothing was ever thought of it. It was working in another's field, putting myself down on an equality with the negroes, that was objected to.

"Of course I followed her advice. Even my few days in the place had showed me that it was true, The garden I rented was a quarter of a mile from her house and the first day she gradually I convinced her that I was apple. equal to the task of walking a distance four times a day and doing a good day's work among my vegetables besides.

"There was half an acre of ground and I planted English peas, snap beans and cucumbers. At the end of five months I had cleared enough to pay my expenses from the time I left home, tallroad fare, board and all, with \$12 during that year. left over. Besides I was twenty pounds heavier, had color in my face and hardly ever coughed.

"During these five months I had heard a lot about pineapples and I visited several pineries. Determining to

"I wanted land as much like that I had seen pineapples growing on on the pounds to the acre each time. it in the meantime.

log house with a little log kitchen at is water. the back. Of course the logs used in where I went against local prejudice, as only negroes in the south are supposed to live in log bouses. The whites, however poor, feel that they must have a frame dweiling.

as soon as work on the place was and more numerous the scratches. well under way I wrote for my younger)

cost me \$6 a thousand. Eighteen make a good pine picker. pineapples averaging about thirty to which the fruit is picked depends on dinary amount of rain fall.

growers will not agree ther it is worth from that first year's crop \$800. De-otherwise it decays before it ripens, Delray, Deerfield, Boca Ratone, Wyland, the clearing and building of the should be left by which to hang the tle River, Lemon City and Ojus will Three thousand definition of the the River, Lemon City and Oj amount which Miss Christobelle Macy house, besides the railroad and other fruit up for twenty-four hours before it all have new fields this season. cousin to Florida and our living ex- "When one is on the ground the best penses, we calculated that we had fruit to eat is one that the rats have cleared about \$250. Not so bad for tasted, as they have unfailing judge the first eighteen months of a farm ment on the quality of pines. Pineapworked by two women and a boy, at ples should always be gathered dry. been accustomed to farming in New is for one person to pick the fruit and Hampshire.

or the Abakka pineapple. Besides the the plants. Breaking the leaves of the fruit of that first crop I sold several pineapple plant is very injurious to it. thousand suckers, but as the money went to buy sukers of the Abakkas we pineapple planters of my acquaintance, never counted that in the amount ship my pines in the half barrel crates

"As my cousin returned home that year my sister and I had to call in help teens brings better prices that smaller both for weeding and for gathering, As a pinery only has to be reset every six years and there is little or no work is greater demand for it. between gathering times if once the ground is properly mulched I have to size it is wrapped in tissue paper to never found it necessary to hire help

"While in this climate pineapples found that all the out of door work was can be planted every month in the and firmly secured with excelsior. year, the best results are obtained "I might have offered my services to when it is done between the first of ior pines, but what there are find ready I might have one red my services to when it is done between the sale in marmalade factories and for formed of the death of her daughters.

from the stem of the pineapple plant apples, as I find it more profitable on the respect, and I knew require to be above the ground. There are usually my small acreage to grow the funcy be perferred to slips, as they give a Cavenne and Abakka. 12 for "I talked the matter over with the crop in eighteen months, while slips the shoots at the base of the fruit.

become such a popular industry, there wanted and could either work along is always ready sale for both suckers and slips from healthy plants. Mine hundred hollars to invest and was fond ane always spoken for months ahead. of out-door life I should certainly go Suckers I sell for \$10 a thousand and into the business of raising pineapples, slips for half that amount.

"Pineapples are very shallow rooted climate. plants and after planting I never use and tool in their cultivation except the scuffle hoe. No good pineapple land New Hampshire in safety, but why forms a crust after a rain and there is should I become a school teacher on a no advantage in tilling the soil to save saialy of \$600 a year when I can do so moisture. From my experience the quicker the rain is soaked up by the thought it too far for me to walk, but soil the better effect it has on the pine-

the old plants fall to the ground and after the first year form a fairly good have to come south for their heath mulch. I have always found it advantageous to spread a thick layer of pine it into a pineapple farm and do the needles on after setting out new plants. work themselves. I am not the only This goes a good way to keep down the person in this vicinity who, coming weeds, which will otherwise spring up

back to mulching. It is the danger of home." fire. Once a well mulched field of pinepples caught fire it would go like

"One item of expense for the pineapple grower to take into considera- as follows from Miami:begun to look about for a few scres of tion, because it cannot be done without, is fertilizer. I fertilize my pines country this week. Cuba can blow every two months, using one thousand

"Experiments have proved that pinethe owner was quite willing to sell me apples need a lot of nitrogen, some this season at White City, Fort Pierce four name of the pierce for the season at White City, Fort Pierce for the season at potash and a little phosphoric acid. I and Viking. These fields will have 95 Promise of as much more as I wanted use mostly dried blood and sulphate of per cent, of a crop. Viking will ship "It cost me \$200 merely to have the the rains wash it down into the axils of started the 50-acre pinery for the Minland cleared and to build a four roomed the leaves, where nearly always there

blossom in January and February and from the land. That was the one point the fruit ripens from April to June. pineries of 5 to 15 acres each. Gathering pineapples is not the easiest work in the world, for one must go pre-

toss it to a second person, who stands "That same year we set out suckers in the path between the plants, This

"I, along with the majority of the holding from eighteen to thirty-six pines, according to size. While eightruit, if I had a larger farm I should try for the medium size fruit, as there

'After the fruit is sorted according prevent the skin from being broken and the fruit from wilting, and then packed with tips and butts alternating

"There are a few culls: that is inferthe farmers, but I knew I would be suckers and slips must be taken from making a medicine used for indigestion. As my farm now stands I have Suckers are the shoots which spring only half an acre of red Spanish pine-

on as surely as the red Spanish, which "Now that pineapple growing has is the pine seen in the general market. "Do I consider it a good field for

women? Well, if I had only a few even it I didn't have to live in a warm

"Now I am so much better the doctors have told me I might return to much better with pineapples? Necessity brought me here, preference is keeping me

"I save more money here in one year "Although the leaves and stems of than I did in the whole fifteen in which I taught. Yes, I advise women who and have a few dollars to invest to put down here in search of health, has remained because she can make a com-"There is, however, one great draw- fortable living easier than in her old

#### The Pineapple Crop

The staff correspondent of the New York Produce News writes his paper

"I made a trip over the pineapple about its 1,000,000 crates of pines all it wants to. We will have some too. Many new fields will come in bearing place,

as heavily as the young ones. Last record, but wants a chance to create the people's side whenever any ques-"The pickers must wear leggins and year many plant 3 did not bear until one and promises faithful service.

sister and a cousin, a young boy who mittens of thick canvas and must be late in the fall on account of the dry had always been delicate, to come on, careful to give the fruit about an inch weather, so, of course, they did not and as soon as the house was finished and a half of stem. The length of the sucker out till later and will no doubt we moved in. That year from July to stem makes a great difference with the be late in blooming this season. Sevthe first of November the three of us way the fruit keeps, and for that readenty per cent will be a fair estimate of set out 12,000 pineapple suckers that son considerable skill is required to the yield on old fields. But the fruit will run large this season if the weathmonths later I harvested 320 crates of "While the degree of ripeness at er is anywhere near normal and an or-

the length of time that will clapse be- Quite a few new fields of pines will "This crop sold for an average of fore it reaches the market, it should come into bearing this year in the \$2.50 a crate making the gross receipts never be picked before it is fully grown south end of the county and south of

#### Death'of Miss Edith Edwards.

Last Monday merning at two o'clock the death angel visited the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Edwards on North vious her sister, Miss Annie, was laid away. These two young ladies, with having been confined to her bed for her death was perferation of the adjourned till Wednesday. bowels and peretinitis developed Sunday afternoon, and death came at 1:45 a. m. Funeral services were held mara, officiating at the grave.

Mrs. Edwards, mother of the two deas possible after she was taken ill, and reports from there as to her condition are very encouraging. However, she is still so ill that she has not been in-

#### Birthday Surprise Party.

Tuesday evening about twenty friends of R. L. Goodwin gathered at two to each plant and they are much to high priced varieties, like the smooth his home on the river front to help his death from blows on the head with "They are more delicious, but in this alent to saying a number of people Mix and others. oman in whose house I was boarding repaire a full year longer. These slips, climate, where frost if it ever comes is spent a most enjoyable evening, as all repaire a full year longer. These slips, climate, where frost if it ever comes is spent a most enjoyable evening, as all repaire a full year longer. the rule and everybody enjoyed them selves to their full capacities.

It also being St. Patrick's Day green ribbon and evergreens were in evidence and played a prominent part. Fan-tan was the game of the evening and Eugene Hoofnagle, who was also celebrating his birthday, carried off first honors for gentlemen and Mrs. Chase won the ladies' prize. Toothsome refreshments were served and full justice was done them. They consisted of sandwiches, pickles, strawberries, ice cream, sherbert and many kinds of cake.

The guests departing expressed them selves as delighted and wished Mr. Goodwin many happy returns of St. Patrick's Day, as well as his birth-

#### For Committeeman.

Hon. Claude F. Olmstead announces this week that he is a candidate for member - of the State Democratic Executive Committee from St. Lucie county, to succeed Capt. W. J. Tucker. Mr. Olmstead is well qualified to represent St. Lucie county on the committee, being well posted on all matters concerning the duties of the office. He has served two terms in the legislature as our representative and deserves recognition at the hands of the voters. This is a position in which there is no money consideration and Mr. Olmstead displays patriotism in asking for the

Franklin for Sheriff. cast over the leaves of the pines and point where the late C. T. McCarty Mr. Franklin is well known to the pec-Fort Pierce, where he has lived a num-

### NEGRO FOULLY MURDERED

His Head Was Horribly Beaten and Battered.

Last Monday morning A. J. Franklin and J. A. Alderman made a gruesome find near the public road about two and a half miles west of Fort Pierce. It was the dead body of a negro man, whom investigation proved to be Jack Wright, formerly of Titusville. His head was beaten and hattered almost beyond recognition and apparently life bad been extinct about two days.

Sheriff Carlton and Coroner Tyler were at once notified and the following jury was at once impaneled to view the remains: T. J. O'Brien foreman, J. A. Alderman, John Hendry, Perry Carl-Pine street, and called to rest Miss ton, Wm. Meredith and A. J. Drawdy. least it didn't seem so to us, who had "About the best method for picking Edith Edwards, the eldest daughter. At the inquest it developed that Just a little more than one week pre- Wright, the deceased, who was generally known as "Pap," had been cutting wood with other negroes for the from my own plants and also suckers requires very little walking among others of the family, have been Trowell Livery Company and was seriously ill for some time, Miss Edith known to carry considerable money with him at all times. The supposithirty-one days. The malady, which tion is that the crime was committed was typhoid fever, did its horrile work for robbery. After hearing all the in a conclusive manner, and taffled all available evidence and turning the treatment, although the direct cause of body over to parties for burial the jury

Sheriff Carlton at once went to work on the case and several arrests were made and at the second sitting of the Monday afternoon, Rev. J. W. MacNa- jury he had collected other evidence for their consideration. Two negroes, who worked near him, known as John ceased young ladies, was removed to Mix and Kid George, whose reputation the hospital at St. Augustine as soon are none of the best, were among the arrests. J. S. Bell, when returning to town Friday night met three negro men on the road two miles west from town near where the body was found. one of whom he identified as Mix, and the authorities think that the crime was committed soon after that time.

The coroners jury rendered a verdict to the offect that the deceased came to celebrate his birthday. This is equiv- blunt instruments in the hands of John

> be brought out at the preliminary hearing, which will be held at an early date before Judge Fee.

#### Mrs. Carrie Nation Here.

Mrs. Carrie Nation, the world renowned hatchet thrower and saloon smasher, arrived in Fort Pierce Wednesday at noon from Miami, where she has been for the past two weeks. In the evening she gave a lecture in the Improvement Club hall to an immense crowd, who were enthusiastic in their applause.

Mrs. Nation found no saloons here to smash, and complimented the city on being rid of them. She gave a brief history of her life telling how she started in the work and the trouble she has met.

Thursday afternoon Mrs. Nation gave another lecture in the hall on Woman's Mission from a Bible Standpoint" and was again greeted by a large audience. She left at five o'clock yesterday for West Palm Beach. Mrs. Nation expressed her regret that she had not the time to look up any blind tigers and knock them out.

#### Gilchrist for Governor.

In our announcement columns this week appears the photo and card of General Albert Gilchrist of Punta Gorda, candidate for Governor. The general is not a candidate of any ring, machine or faction, but is running on his own personal merit. He is well known all over the State, having been identi-In this week's News A. J. Franklin fied with the growth of DeSoto county announces that he is a candidate for for many years and been the means of came along and offered to pay more for meal. I scatter the fertilizer broad-near point along the late C. T. McCarty Mr. Franklip is well known to the page the State of the page the late C. T. McCarty Mr. Franklip is well known to the late C. T. McCarty Mr. Franklip is well known to the late C. T. McCarty Mr. Franklip is well known to the late C. T. McCarty Mr. Franklip at one time was speaker of the House Duzee is now the manager of the com- ber of years. He is well qualified to of Representatives. General Gilchrist "In my section of Florida pineapples pany. W. H. Wright has about 40 fill the office and if elected would per-also states that he has never had a acres and there are about a dozen other form his duties well. He is beginning "paying job" from the people, and if a lively canvas and has many friends elected Governor will not realize any-The cold weather a couple of weeks who will assist him, and he will no thing above living expenses, the balago did so damage to the pineapples. doubt polla flattering vote. Mr. Frank- ance to go to charitible institutions of The temperature was lower at Delray lin has never asked for office here be- the State. He is a man of the people and Boynton that it was up Indian fore, and states that he is running on and from the people and if placed in scratches. The older the neid the and new that the found on sweeter the pines, but also the deeper river. The old pineries will not fruit his personal record. He has no official the Governor's chair will be found on sweeter the pines, but also the deeper river. The old pineries will not fruit his personal record, but wants a change to contain the country of the co